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May 19, 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

David SIDRANSKY

Atty. Docket No.:

01107.76459

Serial No.: 09/164,764

Group Art Unit:

1653

Filed: October 1, 1998

Examiner:

J. Souaye

For: DETECTION OF HYPERMUT-
ABLE NUCLEIC ACID
SEQUENCE IN TISSUE

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MAY 15 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 14, 2001, please amend the instant application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 33.

23. (Amended) A method for detecting lung cancer in a sputum specimen, comprising the step of:
testing a plurality of microsatellite markers in the specimen to determine a microsatellite marker length alteration relative to a control sample, wherein a microsatellite marker length alteration in the specimen relative to the control sample indicates the presence of a cancer in the lung which drains into the sputum.

24. (Amended) A method for detecting cancer of an organ in a specimen of a body fluid which drains the organ, wherein the specimen is selected from the group consisting of: blood, urine, sputum, bile, stool, cervical smears, saliva, tears, cerebral spinal fluid, and lymph nodes, comprising the step of:

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